

Agilent Ref: 10004108-1  
United States Application Serial No. 10/037,757

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the claims:**

1. (Previously Presented) An array assembly comprising:
  - (a) a plastic base layer;
  - (b) a continuous glass layer forward of the base layer;
  - (c) an array of polymers having a pattern of features on a front surface of the glass layer; and
  - (d) a layer between the base and glass layers that blocks at least 10% of an illuminating light incident on said front surface from reaching said plastic base layer; wherein said array assembly is flexible.
2. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 1 wherein the polymers are biopolymers.
3. (Previously Presented) An array assembly according to claim 1 wherein said layer between the base and glass layers is opaque.
4. (Previously Presented) An array assembly according to claim 1 wherein said layer between the base and glass layer is reflective.
5. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the reflective layer comprises a metal.
6. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the reflective layer comprises multiple layers of dielectric materials.
7. (Previously Presented) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the glass layer has a thickness of 40-200 nm.
8. (Currently Amended) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the plastic base layer has a fluorescence of at least ten reference units, wherein a

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reference unit is the integrated maximum fluorescence energies from 547 nm to 597 nm obtainable from a 1 mm thick section of fused silica when said silica is irradiated by a monochromated high pressure Xe lamp excitation source centered at 532 nm with a width at half-maximum of about 5 nm.

9. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the plastic base layer absorbs at least 10% of light at 532 nm incident on a front surface of the assembly.

10. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 1 additionally comprising an identifier on a back surface of the plastic base layer.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 1, wherein the assembly is in the form of an elongated web.

13. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 12 with multiple arrays disposed along the front surface of the glass layer.

14. (Previously Presented) A method of fabricating a flexible array assembly comprising:

providing a plastic base layer with a continuous glass layer bound thereto at a position forward of the plastic base layer and a layer between the base and glass layers that blocks at least 10% of an illuminating light incident on a front surface of said glass layer from reaching said plastic base layer; and

forming an array of polymers having a pattern of features on a front surface of the glass layer.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14 wherein the layer between the base and glass layers is reflective.

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16. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 14 wherein the layer between the base and glass layers comprises a metal.

17. (Original) A method of claim 16 wherein the layer comprises multiple layers of dielectric materials.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein the glass layer has a thickness of 0.40 to 200 nm.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14 wherein the plastic base layer has a fluorescence of at least ten reference units, wherein a reference unit is the integrated maximum fluorescence energies from 547 nm to 597 nm obtainable from a 1 mm thick section of fused silica when said silica is irradiated by a monochromated high pressure Xe lamp excitation source centered at 532 nm with a width at half-maximum of about 5 nm.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 14 additionally comprising forming an identifier on a back surface of the plastic base layer.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein the assembly is in the form of an elongated web.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein multiple arrays are formed by depositing drops onto the front surface of the glass layer, which contain the polymers or polymer precursor units.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 23 wherein the polymers are polynucleotides or peptides.

25. (Cancelled)

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26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14 wherein the layer between the base and glass layers is opaque.

Please add the following new claims:

27. (New) An array assembly according to claim 1, further comprising a bonding layer between said base layer and said light blocking layer.

28. (New) A method according to claim 14, further comprising adding a bonding layer between said base layer and said light blocking layer.